Cash Payment to workers under rural employment schemes

2691. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

How the workers under various rural employment guarantee schemes would be given their food entitlement in view of the reported inadequate stocks in Food Corporation of India (FCI) godowns;

whether the workers will be given cash payment instead of payment in kind (foodgrains); and

if so, in order to ensure that the full cash payment is received by the workers, whether Government are considering creation of post office bank accounts for each worker to transfer the cash payment directly into their accounts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) and (b) Para 31 of Schedule-ll of the NREG Act provides that the wages under scheme may be paid either wholly in cash or in cash and kind provided that at least one fourth of the wages shall be paid in cash only. The Central assistance to the States has been released in cash only.

(c) Payment of wages to the beneficiaries is to be made by the States. Some States are considering tie up with the banks and post offices for payment of wages to the beneficiaries through the bank/post office accounts.

Implementation of Gram Sadak Yojana in Goa

2692. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

whether Gram Sadak Yojana is being implemented in the State of Goa;

the cost involved; and

the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.